REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 14-23 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-13 have been canceled, Claim 18 has been amended and Claims 19-23 have been added by the present amendment.

This application is a divisional application of now allowed parent U.S. application serial no. 10/101,729, filed on March 21, 2002 and includes the non-elected Claims 14-18. Further, Claims 19-23 have been added to set forth the invention in a varying scope, and Applicants submit the new claims are supported by the originally filed specification. In particular, new Claim 19 is similar to Claim 14 but recites that the internal power supply voltage is decided in accordance with the estimated amount of the gate leakage currents. New Claims 20-23 are the same as dependent Claims 15-18, but depend on Claims 19, 20, 21 and 22, respectively.

The specification has also been amended to include a reference to the parent application.

Consequently, an action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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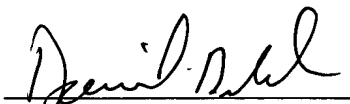

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